

REMARKS

The abstract has been amended to meet the word count requirement.

Regarding the claim objections of section 2 of the Office Action, the informalities in claims 24-36 have been corrected.

- 5 Regarding Paragraphs 3 and 4 of the office action, amendments have been made to remove the indefiniteness problems. Claim 1 has been cancelled. In claim 22, line 9, "particular" has been stricken. In claim 36, "said cluster network" has been changed to "a cluster network".

- 10 The Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 22, 24, and 34 – 36 as being anticipated by Beck et al. (US 6,665,304). In paragraph 11 of the office action, the Examiner indicated claims 4-16 and 27 – 33 would be allowable if re-written in independent form. Consequently, rejected independent claims 1 and 24 have been cancelled, and allowable claims 4, 6 and 27 are amended into independent claims. The subject matter of allowable claim 27 is introduced into rejected claims 22, 34 and
- 15 35. The subject matter of allowable claim 4 is introduced into rejected claim 36. Accordingly, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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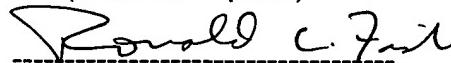
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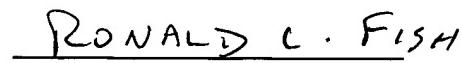
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